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International cooperation against the world drug problem

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 67/193, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of that resolution. The report provides an overview of the world drug situation and of the implementation of the mandates relating to international drug control by Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, other entities of the United Nations system and relevant international organizations. It also provides information on the preparations for the high-level review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, to be held in 2014, and contains recommendations for consideration by the Assembly in preparing for the special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

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Contents

		Page
I.	Introduction	3
II.	Overview of the world drug situation	3
III.	International cooperation against the world drug problem	5
	A. Action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs	5
	B. Action by subsidiary bodies	6
IV.	Demand reduction and related measures	7
	A. Reducing drug abuse and its health and social consequences	7
	B. Access to treatment, health care and social services, including prevention of HIV/AIDS and other drug-related diseases	8
V.	Supply reduction and related measures	9
	A. Regional and international cooperation in countering the world drug problem and the principle of common and shared responsibility	9
	B. Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances	12
VI.	Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation	13
VII.	Data collection and research	14
VIII.	Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	15
IX.	Assessing progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem	17
X.	Recommendations	18

I. Introduction

1. At its sixty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[1] in which Member States reaffirmed their commitment to ensure that all aspects of demand reduction, supply reduction and international cooperation were addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States.

2. In its resolution 67/193, entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem", the General Assembly reiterated its call upon States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. In the same resolution, the Assembly also decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session on the world drug problem, following the high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, which would be conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in March 2014.

3. The present report, prepared pursuant to Assembly resolution 67/193, provides an overview of the world drug situation as well as an overview of the implementation of the mandates relating to international drug control by Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), other entities of the United Nations system and relevant international organizations. It follows the structure of the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action in highlighting the priorities followed by Member States and UNODC, including through the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. It also provides information on the preparations for the high-level review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, to be conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2014, and contains recommendations for consideration by the Assembly in preparing for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

II. Overview of the world drug situation

4. The information presented in the present section is based on data submitted by Member States through the annual report questionnaire concerning action taken to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and on data contained in the *World Drug Report 2013*.[2]

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.6.

Illicit production of and trafficking in opium

5. In 2012, UNODC and its national counterparts conducted opium surveys in Afghanistan and South-East Asia.

6. Afghanistan remained by far the largest source country for opiates worldwide. The total area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan in 2012 was estimated at 154,000 hectares, an 18 per cent increase compared with 2011. Nevertheless, potential production of opium fell by 36 per cent in 2012, to 3,700 tons, owing to a combination of a disease affecting the opium poppy and adverse weather conditions. With a total area of over 58,000 hectares in 2012, most opium poppy cultivation in South-East Asia took place in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar. Mexico remained the largest opium-poppy growing country in the Americas.

7. As of 2011, global aggregate seizures of morphine and heroin had increased by approximately half over a period of three years, in spite of the decreasing trend in production during the period 2007-2010.

8. While heroin use was reportedly decreasing or stabilizing in established markets in North America and West and Central Europe, data on seizures and heroin use suggested that heroin markets were expanding in some parts of Africa and Asia.

Illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine

9. In 2011, UNODC and its national counterparts conducted coca surveys in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia and Peru.

10. The cocaine market declined strongly during the period 2006-2012 in North America, and in Western and Central Europe it appeared to have stabilized following many years of increase. However, in recent years, there have been indications of increasing cocaine consumption in countries in Asia and Africa.

11. Global illicit cultivation of coca bush in 2011 remained around the levels reported for 2010 (about 155,600 hectares). Despite uncertainty in the global estimates of cocaine manufacture, it can be assumed that those levels also remained unchanged (between 776 and 1,051 tons in 2011).

12. After a relatively stable period between 2005 and 2009, global cocaine seizures declined in both 2010 and 2011. However, the geographic distribution of seizures remained unchanged, with the major producing and transit regions of South America, Central America and the Caribbean accounting for 71 per cent of global seizures in 2011 (compared with 74 per cent in 2009). Seizures in the traditional consumer markets of North America and Europe accounted for 28.7 per cent of global cocaine seizures.

Illicit production of and trafficking in cannabis

13. Cannabis is the world's most widely used illicit substance. Given the relative ease with which cannabis herb (marijuana) can be produced, demand is often met through local production. As a result, trafficking flows for cannabis tend to be more localized than those for other plant-based illicit drugs.

14. North America continues to account for more than half of global cannabis herb seizures, mainly owing to the quantities seized in Mexico and the United States of America. Large quantities are also seized in South America and Africa.

15. In contrast with cannabis herb, production of cannabis resin is concentrated in a small number of countries. Consequently, trafficking of cannabis resin tends to follow flows that are more distinct. One of those flows is into Europe from Morocco; another is from Afghanistan into and through neighbouring countries.

Illicit manufacture of and trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances, and the increasing diversion of precursors

16. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) remain a significant global threat, with increasing levels of seizures and use, manufacture spreading to new markets and increasing diversion of precursor chemicals. Use of ATS remained steady in their traditional markets, namely, North America and Oceania, while increasing use was noted in East and South-East Asia and Africa. Seizures of ATS reached new highs across all regions, with Asia, North America and Europe registering the most marked increases.

17. The emergence of new psychoactive substances continues to pose major challenges for authorities worldwide. On the basis of information submitted by Member States and a network of drug analysis laboratories in response to a questionnaire, UNODC prepared a report entitled *The Challenge of New Psychoactive Substances*,[3] which provided the first global overview of the emergence of the substances. At its fifty-sixth session, in March 2013, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted resolution 56/4, entitled "Enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances", in which the Commission urged UNODC to continue to develop the voluntary electronic portal of the international collaborative exercises to enable timely and comprehensive sharing of information on new psychoactive substances, including analytical methodologies, reference documents and mass spectra.

18. Global amphetamine seizures followed a generally increasing trend during the period 2001-2009, driven in part by increases in Captagon seizures in the Near and Middle East and South-West Asia, which overtook Europe in terms of total seizures.

19. After relatively stable levels of seizures leading up to 2008, the annual amount of methamphetamine seized globally increased rapidly in 2011 and was more than three times the amount recorded in 2008.

20. In recent years, the global market for methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), commonly known as "ecstasy", showed a marked decline, with global seizures falling from record levels in 2007 to 3.5 tons in 2011.

III. International cooperation against the world drug problem

A. Action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

21. At its fifty-sixth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted 16 resolutions relating to international drug control and one decision relating to changes in the scope of control of substances. One draft resolution, entitled "United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development", was recommended for

[3] Available from www.unodc.org/documents/scientific/NPS_2013_SMART.pdf.

approval by the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly.

22. Issues covered by the adopted resolutions included supply reduction, new psychoactive substances, forensic drug profiling, HIV/AIDS, international control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the principle of common and shared responsibility, data collection, precursors, tramadol and alternative development.

23. In its decision 56/1, entitled "Transfer of *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971", the Commission, upon recommendation of the World Health Organization (WHO), decided, by 41 votes to 1, with no abstentions, to transfer *gamma*-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) from Schedule IV to Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

24. Three round-table discussions were held at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the following topics: demand reduction and related measures; supply reduction and related matters; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

25. The International Narcotics Control Board presented its annual report for 2012[4] and its report for 2012 on the implementation of article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[5] during the session, and speakers expressed appreciation and support for the work of the Board, and recognized its role in monitoring the implementation of the international drug control conventions and in ensuring the availability of internationally controlled substances for licit uses.

26. The need to address challenges posed by new psychotropic substances and the use of cannabis seeds for illicit cultivation was stressed. The Commission also decided to include in the agenda of its next session a sub-item on challenges and future work of the Commission and WHO in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations, in order to assist Member States in applying the existing scheduling procedures as contained in the three international drug control conventions.

B. Action by subsidiary bodies

27. Four meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs were held in 2012: the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, was held in Accra from 25 to 29 June; the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, was held in Antigua, Guatemala, from 1 to 5 October; the Thirty-sixth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, was held in Bangkok from 30 October to 2 November; and the forty-seventh session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug

[4] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (E/INCB/2012/1).

[5] *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (E/INCB/2012/4).

Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East was held in Antalya, Turkey, from 19 to 23 November.

28. Those subsidiary bodies addressed issues of priority in drug law enforcement in their regions and reviewed progress made in the implementation of recommendations made at previous sessions.[6]

IV. Demand reduction and related measures

29. Within its thematic programme that addresses health and human development vulnerabilities in the context of drugs and crime, UNODC has increased its emphasis on compassionate and ethical demand reduction, rehabilitation and related health-protection measures as part of its efforts to put a health-centred and humanitarian approach at the heart of drug control policy.

A. Reducing drug abuse and its health and social consequences

30. UNODC increased its collaboration with WHO on improving the coverage and quality of services for the treatment and care of drug use disorders, based on scientific evidence and ethical standards.

31. A major achievement of UNODC efforts in the area of treatment has been the successful implementation of a knowledge-sharing mechanism through which professionals from a wide range of disciplines related to drug dependence treatment have been trained.

32. Work has continued on the promotion of a global coordinated response from public institutions and non-governmental organizations to protect children and adolescents at risk of drug dependence, and/or those affected by drug use dependence and its health and social consequences. The first phase is being piloted in Afghanistan and it is expected that the second phase will reach as many countries and regions as funds allow.

33. The UNODC programme on family skills training in drug abuse prevention and the UNODC Youth Initiative were expanded, supporting prevention activities in a growing number of countries. A number of activities were carried out in 12 countries in four different regions with the objective of implementing evidence-based family skills training programmes to prevent drug use, HIV/AIDS, and crime and delinquency among young people by strengthening and improving the capacity of families to take care of their children. Over 3,500 family members have been reached so far under these programmes.

34. UNODC published *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*[7] and launched the Prevention Strategy and Policymakers Initiative to create regional prevention hubs, starting in Central America, North Africa, Central Asia and East Asia. The *International Standards* aim to empower Member States to develop comprehensive and effective drug prevention systems, and to promote healthy lifestyles, particularly among young people. The ultimate goal is to form a common,

[6] See E/CN.7/2013/5.

[7] Available from www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/prevention_standards.pdf.

science-based foundation for prevention work. The *International Standards* are aimed at national-level policymakers.

35. Pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 54/6, entitled "Promoting adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse", UNODC has initiated the review and revision of model laws.

B. Access to treatment, health care and social services, including prevention of HIV/AIDS and other drug-related diseases

36. UNODC is responding to HIV/AIDS among drug users and in prison settings, in line with its mandates, reaching over 100 countries worldwide. The Office is building the evidence base for public health approaches to HIV prevention, treatment and care services, and is facilitating the review and adaptation of national legislation and policies concerning narcotic drugs, criminal justice, prison management and HIV. Those efforts are aimed at strengthening regulations, policies and legislative reforms, which are critical for evidence-informed and human rights-focused HIV services for people who use drugs and those living in prisons and other closed settings.

37. The delivery of HIV services, technical assistance and advocacy by UNODC and its production and dissemination of strategic information and global guidelines have facilitated the scaling up of needle and syringe programmes, opioid substitution therapy and other evidence-based responses for people who use opioids and/or stimulant drugs in key countries. Access to timely and uninterrupted antiretroviral therapy for people using drugs and for people in prisons and other closed settings who are living with HIV has also been expanded.

38. UNODC made notable progress in advancing global dialogue and advocacy on gender-responsive HIV/AIDS programmes and on improving equitable access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care services for female drug users and female prisoners, for example in Afghanistan, Nepal, Pakistan and Ukraine. The capacity of service providers to deliver gender-specific services was significantly enhanced, and that work informed the development of targeted interventions, including with regard to mother-to-child transmission of HIV, female drug users and women living in prisons and other closed settings.

39. UNODC, together with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), WHO and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), drafted the policy brief "HIV prevention, treatment and care in prisons and other closed settings: a comprehensive package of interventions", in which 15 essential interventions for prisons and other closed settings are outlined. The document is aimed at guiding relevant decision makers when planning and implementing responses to HIV in prisons and other closed settings.

40. UNODC organized the Global Technical Meeting on Stimulant Drug Use and HIV, held in São Paulo, Brazil, from 25 to 27 January 2012, which was attended by leading experts in stimulant use and HIV and representatives from the UNAIDS secretariat, UNDP and civil society. The experts recommended a targeted approach

to address the unique needs of certain groups of non-injecting drug users, especially those who use crack cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants, as they intersect with HIV prevention, treatment and care. UNODC contributed to the finalization of the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users: 2012 Revision*, which contains an expanded framework for assessing the quality of key HIV interventions for people who inject drugs.

41. In order to intensify efforts to achieve the targets of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS (General Assembly resolution 65/277, annex), in particular the target of reducing HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015, UNODC selected, jointly with global and regional civil society organizations, 24 high-priority countries for the period 2013-2015. A joint workplan between UNODC and civil society organizations was developed, which contains specific outputs and deliverables that will contribute to achieving the target.

42. In its resolution 56/6, entitled "Intensifying the efforts to achieve the targets of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS among people who use drugs, in particular the target to reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015", the Commission strongly requested Member States, in accordance with national legislation, to reinforce the coordination among relevant national authorities, inter alia, health, criminal justice and law enforcement authorities, as well as civil society, and to develop strategies to ensure that HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, are affordable, available and accessible in order to achieve maximum efficiency of those interventions, without stigma or discrimination and while ensuring gender equality.

V. Supply reduction and related measures

43. UNODC provides technical assistance to requesting Member States to build the capacity of law enforcement and judicial authorities, improve border control and counter the laundering of proceeds of crime. Given the close links between drug trafficking and the activities of transnational organized criminal groups, UNODC assistance is based on the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Alternative livelihood programmes also serve as an important component in strategies to reduce supply.

A. Regional and international cooperation in countering the world drug problem and the principle of common and shared responsibility

44. Through its regional programmes for West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and the Arab States, and in close partnership with regional mechanisms, including the African Union, UNODC aimed to promote regional cooperation to address the drug problem. Initiatives in that area include: the response to the crisis in the

Sahel 2013-2017; the West Africa Coast Initiative (a joint initiative between UNODC, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Office for West Africa and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); and the ongoing establishment of transnational crime units to promote counter-trafficking cooperation among East African countries. In its resolution 56/16, entitled "Enhancing international cooperation to strengthen efforts in West Africa to counter illicit drug trafficking", the Commission on Narcotic Drugs invited UNODC and Member States to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to support the Economic Community of West African States and Member States in their efforts to combat drug trafficking.

45. UNODC continues to support the strengthening of national capacities in order to reduce drug demand and drug-related social and health consequences, including in prison settings, in line with international standards and norms. In 2013, as part of a comprehensive programme in Nigeria funded by the European Union, UNODC initiated a project dealing with drug use prevention and treatment and drug trafficking and related organized crime.

46. The regional programme framework for East Asia and the Pacific for the period 2009-2012 has been extended to the end of 2013 and the new regional programme for East Asia for the period 2014-2017 is under preparation. UNODC continued to participate as an observer in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters and the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime. UNODC and ASEAN share concerns about worsening regional trends regarding opium and amphetamine-type stimulants.

47. UNODC activities in South Asian countries have focused on HIV prevention among drug users, including those in prisons, and on drug law enforcement. The Office has established a platform for information exchange and cooperation with the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Joint technical cooperation activities were carried out in the areas of drug law enforcement and drug use and HIV prevention in selected SAARC countries. A regional programme for South Asia for the period 2013-2014 was launched in May 2013.

48. UNODC continues to provide legal and implementation advice, upon request, with regard to the international drug control framework, which comprises the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the 1988 Convention. In the course of 2012, three additional instruments of ratification or accession to the 1988 Convention were deposited. UNODC further provided legislative assessment and assistance services in respect of the conventions to five countries in Africa, South-Eastern Europe and South-East Asia.

49. Through its regional programme for promoting counter-narcotics efforts in Afghanistan and neighbouring countries for the period 2011-2014, UNODC is continuing its work towards forging a regional response in West and Central Asia by bringing together various activities taking place at the national level in each country. The framework covers Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan and the five Central Asian countries, and is focused on drug control and improved support for cross-regional efforts to counter the Afghan drug trade at the regional level, supporting the objective of enhancing confidence and trust.

50. The newly developed interregional drug control approach of UNODC connects its programmes and initiatives to stem the trafficking of drugs originating in Afghanistan. The approach fosters enhanced exchange of intelligence, upgraded training capacities, more effective action against drug-related financial flows and money-laundering and expanded maritime cooperation, focusing on connecting the law enforcement-related components of existing programmes and initiatives.

51. The Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan adopted the Vienna Declaration in February 2012 as the framework and road map for enhanced cooperation for all future interventions within four areas: regional initiatives; financial flows linked to illicit traffic in opiates; preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals; and reducing drug abuse and dependence. The objective of the fourth phase (2013-2016) of the Paris Pact initiative is to demonstrate the results of heightened collaboration among its 78 partners in the above-mentioned four priority areas. In its resolution 56/3, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative", the Commission on Narcotic Drugs reiterated that the Vienna Declaration, including its four main thematic areas, was considered a road map for concrete action and international cooperation under the Paris Pact initiative for the upcoming period.

52. In May 2012, UNODC launched the regional programme for South-Eastern Europe for the period 2012-2015, which will link the work of UNODC in Europe to its work in West and Central Asia and will be a strong platform for countering the trafficking of heroin along the Balkan corridor, which runs from Afghanistan to Western and Central Europe. The underlying principle driving the regional programme is shared responsibility among countries and among different bodies and organizations.

53. Since its launch, the regional programme for South-Eastern Europe has undertaken important activities to assist Member States, at their request, in countering drug trafficking, as well as addressing transnational organized crime, corruption, money-laundering and drug abuse.

54. UNODC established its first liaison and partnership office in Mexico in October 2012. The second liaison and partnership office was launched in Brazil during the UNODC Executive Director's visit to the country in May 2013. Both offices will allow UNODC to focus on the delivery of regional and South-South cooperation, including outside the region.

55. UNODC expects to launch its first regional programme for the Caribbean, for the period 2013-2016, in support of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Crime and Security Strategy 2013. UNODC is undertaking negotiations with relevant stakeholders in order to develop a new regional programme for Central America, aligned with regional and national policies and priorities, including the Central American Security Strategy of the Central American Integration System.

56. The links between trafficking in and misuse of firearms and organized crime, including drug trafficking, are illustrated by, inter alia, the fact that firearms are a lucrative trafficking commodity. Findings derived from crime scene analysis or arms seizures provide a further indication of the possible cause-and-effect relationship

between trafficked arms and the crimes committed by organized crime groups or otherwise related to the illicit drug trade.

57. UNODC is developing a study on trafficking in firearms and its links to other cross-border trafficking flows in order to establish possible links to various forms of organized crime. The study will enable the production of more reliable and evidence-based information on the dimension and impact of firearms trafficking and on its possible links to various forms of organized crime. It will assist Member States in enhancing responses to counter trafficking in firearms and related crimes.

58. A technical assistance programme addressing the threat of organized crime and trafficking is the joint World Customs Organization and UNODC Container Control Programme, which assists law enforcement agencies in identifying and inspecting high-risk maritime containers through the setting up of profiling units and the implementation of a phased training approach. To date, the Programme is operational in 19 Member States and there are plans to expand it significantly in the future. Regional and international cooperation is made possible through ContainerComm, a unique, web-based communication tool that allows encrypted and secured, real-time and standardized communication of data such as warning messages, seizure reports, feedback, alerts and other relevant law enforcement-related information.

B. Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

59. UNODC focused its work on addressing illicit crop cultivation through development-oriented drug control programmes in Afghanistan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru.

60. In Colombia and Peru, UNODC alternative development programmes improved the social and economic situation of families in specific coca bush-growing areas through farmer-led small business enterprises, which were able to increase revenues on the international markets. In Peru alone, exports of products stemming from alternative development amounted to more than $150 million in 2012.

61. A significant role was played by Peru in promoting best practices and lessons learned from alternative development programmes, based on the country's extensive expertise in that regard. Peru hosted a visit from the Government of Afghanistan, during which the delegation travelled to UNODC alternative development project sites in the Huánuco region, to learn about the successes and challenges of the programmes and to explore potential South-South cooperation.

62. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the focus of the programmes was to generate jobs and legitimate income through productive forestry and agroforestry practices and to halt the deterioration in natural resources resulting from coca monoculture.

63. In Myanmar, UNODC alternative development programmes targeted the improvement of food security in opium poppy-growing communities. The

programmes promoted advanced farming practices and the diversification of income-generating activities. A first general assessment of the situation in Shan State was undertaken in February 2013 to evaluate the scope of the long-term technical assistance required to address opium poppy cultivation.

64. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, UNODC, in cooperation with the Royal Project Foundation and the Highland Research and Development Institute of Thailand, provided technical assistance to opium poppy-growing communities on innovative technology in agriculture, which enabled the improvement of food security and increased the annual cash income of villages.

65. With a view to fostering international cooperation based on the principles of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, the high-level International Conference on Alternative Development was held in Lima from 14 to 16 November 2012, as follow-up to the International Seminar Workshop on Sustainable Alternative Development, held in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 6 to 12 November 2011. The outcome of the Conference was the adoption of the Lima Declaration on Alternative Development and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, which contain both policy and technical guidance for Member States and international organizations on alternative development. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-sixth session, recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the Guiding Principles for adoption by the General Assembly.

VI. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

66. UNODC staff, based both at headquarters and in the field, provided training on countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, as well as capacity-building and mentoring, to a range of countries in 2012, through the UNODC Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism. The Office provided long-term assistance in the development of viable regimes to counter money-laundering and the financing of terrorism to 43 countries in nine subregions through the delivery of training; international conferences, in partnership with other agencies and organizations, where possible; and substantive legal reviews.

67. UNODC prepared and delivered tailored training to the staff of financial intelligence units, law enforcement authorities, customs and border control agencies, and judicial authorities in practical and operational aspects of countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, such as the conduct of financial analysis and investigations, the prevention of cash smuggling, criminal asset confiscation and management, and the prosecution of money-laundering and other financial crimes. Field-based mentors in West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa, Central Asia (until July 2012) and the Mekong subregion provided hands-on, tailored mentoring and guidance to authorities in the countries of their areas of responsibility. The Office continued providing support to the Asset Recovery Network of the Financial Action Task Force of South America against Money-Laundering, as well as the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for

Southern Africa. It also worked with Member States in Asia Pacific and in West Africa to begin the creation of similar networks in those subregions.

68. UNODC participated in conferences and workshops on the topics of illicit financial flows from Afghan opiates, as part of its work under the Paris Pact initiative, and on illicit financial flows from piracy off the coast of Somalia in association with partners such as the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, the World Bank and INTERPOL. The Office also conducted legal reviews and provided assistance to enhance legal and regulatory frameworks in four countries and continued to support the International Money Laundering Information Network (IMoLIN) (www.imolin.org) and its Anti-Money Laundering International Database.

VII. Data collection and research

69. UNODC continued to support countries in improving data availability and developed a set of training materials for the annual report questionnaire, which were used to build the capacity of experts from Central Asia and Oceania. Expert advice was also provided on drug use surveys and drug monitoring systems in West Africa and Pakistan.

70. UNODC continued to assist various Governments in the monitoring of illicit crops and production of drugs. In 2012, technical support was provided to Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in monitoring coca bush cultivation, to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar in monitoring opium poppy cultivation and to Afghanistan and Mexico in monitoring opium poppy and cannabis cultivation.

71. The 2013 edition of the *World Drug Report* provides an overview of recent trends and the current situation in terms of illicit production and trafficking, as well as consumption and health-related consequences of drug use, as measured by treatment for drug dependence, drug-related morbidity and drug-related deaths. The report contains a discussion of the phenomenon of new psychoactive substances, which have dynamic, fast-mutating producers and "product lines" that have emerged over the past decade, as well as suggestions for an early warning system and options for control mechanisms for such substances at different levels.

72. UNODC published a report entitled *Misuse of Licit Trade for Opiate Trafficking in Western and Central Asia: A Threat Assessment*,[8] which has been used by law enforcement institutions, policymakers, researchers and the general public.

73. In 2011, UNODC initiated research on the market for cannabis seeds for illicit purposes, paying particular attention to trade over the Internet. UNODC reported to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-sixth session on the preliminary results of the market study undertaken, which showed the different roles that cannabis seeds play in the cultivation and production of cannabis. The report also provides a broad picture of the major flows and the driving forces of the related markets.

[8] Available from www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Studies/Opiate_Trafficking_and_Trade_Agreements_english_web.pdf.

74. Monitoring the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and use of ATS is a challenge for many Governments, and functional systems for monitoring them are largely located in developed countries. The UNODC global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme continued to provide regular reports on emerging patterns and trends in the fast-changing global synthetic drugs situation. In June 2012, the global SMART programme presented a situation report on ATS in West Africa,[9] which warned of an increase in their trafficking, manufacture and use. In the Accra declaration, annexed to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/2, Governments were encouraged to review the training, equipment and preparedness of their law enforcement authorities to be able to respond to the threat posed by ATS and their illicit manufacture and the competent national authorities of States participating in meetings of the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, were urged to share information on the ATS phenomenon with UNODC through, inter alia, its global SMART programme.

75. UNODC efforts to enhance the analytical capacity of drug analysis laboratories to meet internationally accepted standards included developing and making available new manuals and guidelines on procedural approaches, methods for forensic analysis and laboratory best practices. The significant increase in the number of national drug testing laboratories participating in the international collaborative exercises, an important part of the UNODC international quality assurance programme, demonstrates the increased awareness of benefits of the programme and the need for such support to assure the quality of test results. This was achieved through collaboration with regional laboratory networks and the execution of regional programmes with a drug analysis component.

VIII. Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

76. The updated strategy for the period 2012-2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was developed in consultation with Member States at meetings of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC. The strategy provides the overarching political vision for UNODC and is implemented through the strategic frameworks for 2012-2013 and 2014-2015. UNODC is engaged in efforts to institutionalize results-based management and continues to engage with all stakeholders in discussions on the post-2015 development framework with a view to highlighting the links between development, justice and security and to creating a shared technical understanding of issues related to monitoring those areas.

77. UNODC engages in technical cooperation pursuant to its integrated programming approach, comprising thematic and regional programmes, which provide a normative, policy and operational framework for thematic priorities and reflect regional priorities and strategies. The regional programmes, complemented by country programmes in selected locations, are developed in close consultation with and endorsed by regional entities and partner countries.[10] Those programmes

[9] Available from www.unodc.org/documents/scientific/ATS_West_Africa_final_2012.pdf.

[10] Seven regional programmes are in place: for East Africa; West Africa; the Arab States; Central America; South-East Asia and Pacific; South-Eastern Europe; and Afghanistan and neighbouring

facilitate collaboration with the United Nations Development Group regional teams, the United Nations country teams and related United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, thus providing opportunities for joint programming between UNODC and its partners.

78. In its technical assistance work, UNODC continued joining forces and strengthening coordination with other agencies and organizations. The Office cooperated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to mainstream human rights into its programmes and activities, in line with its internal guidance note on the promotion and protection of human rights, and to implement the human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces. In its capacity as co-chair of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability, UNODC advanced the implementation of system-wide initiatives aimed at ensuring comprehensive and holistic responses.

79. UNODC made major progress in establishing an office-wide evaluation culture. Its Independent Evaluation Unit completed four in-depth evaluations of strategic importance to Member States and UNODC in relation to the integrated programming approach, in addition to the backstopping of 48 project evaluations and 21 participatory self-evaluations. Further progress included training of staff on evaluation management; recruitment of an Evaluation Officer in Kabul; and the development of all key evaluation normative tools, a website, a tool for participatory self-evaluations, a database of international evaluation consultants, and an evaluation portal and tracking system of evaluation recommendations, which is soon to be finalized.

80. The financial situation of UNODC remained vulnerable. Less than 1 per cent of the regular budget of the United Nations is allocated to the Office. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/233, the Secretary-General submitted proposals in his proposed programme budget for 2012-2013 to ensure that UNODC would have sufficient resources. As a result, the Assembly approved a small increase of $1.7 million under section 16 of the regular budget, from $39.2 million in the biennium 2010-2011 to $40.9 million in the biennium 2012-2013. The consolidated budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for UNODC, as revised, is $617.8 million, of which 13.6 per cent comes from regular budget funds (and includes regular budget resources under sections 1, 16, 23 and 29F of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013) and $533.7 million from extrabudgetary resources. Moreover, low levels of non-earmarked or soft-earmarked funding represent key challenges to the effective implementation of UNODC mandates and programmes and put a strain on management, coordination and normative functions.

countries. Three additional regional programmes will start in 2013 (for Southern Africa, South Asia and the Caribbean).

IX. Assessing progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

81. As reflected in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, Member States decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and its Plan of Action.

82. In its resolution 67/193, the General Assembly decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem, which would review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments. The Secretary-General welcomes this discussion as it is clear that we are facing great challenges and several Member States have expressed an interest in having a renewed debate over how to best address the world drug problem. This provides an opportunity for Member States to exchange ideas and experiences on what has, and has not worked in the fight against drugs and crime and engage in an open and comprehensive discussion on this important issue.

83. At its fifty-sixth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted resolution 56/12, entitled "Preparations for the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem". In that resolution the Commission decided that the high-level review should be held during its fifty-seventh session, for a period of two days, in addition to the five days usually scheduled for the regular sessions of the Commission, and that it should consist of a general debate on progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and round-table discussions on the three pillars of the Plan of Action.

84. In the same resolution, the Commission resolved that a brief joint ministerial statement should be issued at the conclusion of the high-level review, identifying, on the basis of the review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, achievements, challenges and priorities for further action, in the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

85. The Commission also resolved that the outcome of the high-level review should be submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration, in view of, inter alia, the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

86. Also in its resolution 56/12, the Commission recommended to the Assembly that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, play its leading role in the preparatory process for the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be convened in early 2016, including by presenting its proposals, through the

Economic and Social Council, regarding progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

87. The General Assembly is expected to define the envisaged outcome of the special session on the world drug problem, including the format and content of that outcome.

88. The Assembly is also expected to further specify preparations for the special session, particularly with regard to the role that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs is envisaged to play in those preparations. The Assembly may decide that the Commission is to be established as a preparatory body for the special session, as was the case for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 1998.

X. Recommendations

89. **It is recommended that the General Assembly consider taking the following actions:**

(a) Urge Member States that have not yet done so to adhere to the drug control conventions, and urge all States to fully implement all the provisions of the conventions, including with regard to effective regulatory controls and provision of information, in accordance with the conventions and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

(b) Urge Member States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

(c) Encourage Member States to give special consideration to the linkages between international drug control and development, especially in the context of preparations for the post-2015 development agenda;

(d) Urge Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate and to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States with the drug control conventions;

Demand reduction and related measures

(e) Urge Member States to renew their efforts to increase the coverage of interventions to prevent drug use and to increase access to services for the treatment, care and rehabilitation of people suffering from drug dependence that are based on scientific evidence, gender-responsiveness, human rights and the dignity of the patients;

(f) Request UNODC, taking into consideration the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* and the efforts made with WHO in the framework of the joint programme on drug dependence treatment and care, to

continue gathering information on national and international experiences and best practices on drug prevention, treatment, care and rehabilitation, to make available information on activities and instruments based on scientific evidence and to provide States with guidance and assistance in developing strategies and programmes to incorporate those successful experiences;

(g) Invite Member States to ensure that adequate access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for people who use drugs, in particular people who inject drugs, includes providing the nine core interventions contained in the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users: 2012 Revision* as appropriate, without stigma or discrimination and while ensuring gender equality;

(h) Invite Member States to ensure that adequate access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for people in prisons and other closed settings includes providing the 15 core interventions outlined in the UNODC, ILO, UNDP, WHO and UNAIDS policy brief "HIV prevention, treatment and care in prisons and other closed settings: a comprehensive package of interventions" as appropriate, without stigma or discrimination and while ensuring gender equality;

Supply reduction and related measures

(i) Encourage Member States to review their national legislation to ensure that drug law enforcement authorities are empowered to deal with new challenges presented by pre-precursor substances, non-controlled licit chemicals and the emergence of new psychoactive substances that are sourced by drug traffickers;

(j) Call upon Member States to encourage their law enforcement authorities and prosecutorial services to cooperate with their counterparts in foreign jurisdictions in order to investigate, arrest and prosecute transnational criminal organizations, including drug trafficking networks;

(k) Call upon Member States to enhance drug law enforcement capabilities in order to carry out forensic analysis of seized drugs and precursor chemicals to support the successful investigation and prosecution of those persons responsible for their trafficking;

(l) Encourage Member States to design alternative development programmes in line with the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development to ensure that both a reduction in illicit crop cultivation and an improvement in social and economic conditions in target areas are achieved;

(m) Encourage Member States to facilitate market access for products stemming from alternative development to contribute to long-term legitimate income generation for small farming communities;

Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

(n) Request Member States to fully implement and enforce legal and regulatory frameworks to prevent money-laundering and illicit financial flows and to confiscate and recover illicit assets, in compliance with United Nations conventions and internationally accepted standards;

(o) Request Member States to ensure sufficient domestic legislative frameworks to criminalize the laundering of money derived from drug trafficking, precursor diversion and other serious crimes of a transnational nature;

(p) Request Member States to strengthen financial and regulatory regimes for banks and non-bank financial institutions, and for designated non-financial business and professional entities;

(q) Request Member States to implement effective detection, investigation, prosecution and conviction measures for money-laundering and related crimes;

(r) Invite Member States to promote effective cooperation in strategies for countering money-laundering and in conducting money-laundering cases by strengthening mechanisms for domestic inter-agency coordination and information-sharing as well as regional and international networks for the exchange of operational information among competent authorities, in particular financial intelligence units;

(s) Encourage Member States to make use of the tools to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism developed by UNODC, such as the model laws and IMoLIN;

Data collection and research

(t) Reiterate that the information available on illicit drug trends from many subregions and countries remains incomplete and is therefore insufficient for providing a sound base for analysis, supporting evidence-informed policy development or measuring the progress made in addressing the world drug situation;

(u) Urge Member States to report data and information related to illicit drug trends through mandated data-collection tools, the annual report questionnaire and the individual drug seizure reports, regularly and in a timely manner to UNODC;

(v) Invite the Commission on Narcotics Drugs to strengthen the capacity of UNODC to collect, analyse and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data through mandated data-collection tools and other regional and international mechanisms, and for UNODC to reflect such information in the reports to the Commission and in the *World Drug Report*;

(w) Request UNODC to support Member States that lack the capacity to collect accurate, reliable and comparable data and information on illicit drug production, trafficking and use, with a view to increasing their capacity to provide information through mandated data-collection tools, and urge Member States to support UNODC in this work;

(x) Request UNODC to continue to assist Member States in the collection of information and monitoring of emerging trends in the composition, production and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use of those substances, and to encourage Member States to share relevant data and information with regard to patterns of use, risks to public health, forensic data and the regulation of new psychoactive substances;

(y) Encourage UNODC to continue to support the work of drug-testing and forensic laboratories and their efforts to implement best-practice procedures and standardized approaches, and to assist them in monitoring their performance on a global scale, thus facilitating the exchange of forensic information and data worldwide;

Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(z) Encourage Member States to continue to actively participate in the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC;

(aa) Urge Member States to continue to support the work of the Independent Evaluation Unit;

(bb) Urge Member States to address, as a matter of urgency, the need to provide UNODC with adequate, predictable and stable resources, including additional regular budget resources, to enable it to implement its mandated work in a sustainable manner, and to provide UNODC the necessary voluntary contributions, preferably non-earmarked or soft-earmarked, to enable the Office to effectively respond to the increasing demand for technical assistance and to expand and consolidate its technical cooperation with regional bodies and partner countries worldwide;

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

(cc) Encourage Member States to actively participate in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs high-level review of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, to be held in 2014;

(dd) Decide that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, play its leading role in the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, including by presenting its proposals, through the Economic and Social Council, regarding progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

(ee) Define the content and format of the envisaged outcome of the special session on the world drug problem and further clarify the preparatory work to be undertaken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(ff) Invite Governments to make extrabudgetary contributions available to UNODC to meet costs related to the special session on the world drug problem.